

Message Text

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17

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 EB-07 SSC-01 OMB-01 IO-11 /067 W

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O 211038Z FEB 76 ZFF4

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2934

C O N F I D E N T I A L NIAMEY 0736

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, NG

SUBJ: PROBABLE DISMISSAL OF CILSS COORDINATOR AND MINISTER OF
RURAL ECONOMY MAJOR BAYERE MOUSSA

1. WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED TIP FROM PRESIDENTIAL PALACE THAT
PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE IS DISMISSING MAJOR BAYERE MOUSSA FROM HIS
POSITION AS MINISTER OF RURAL ECONOMY. ARREST NORMALLY FOLLOWS
UNDER SUCH CONDITIONS. BAYERE MOUSSA'S POSITION AS CILSS COORDINATOR
WILL ALSO PRESUMABLY COME TO END. ANNOUNCEMENT OF THIS DEVELOPMENT
IS EXPECTED TO BE MADE ON NIAMEY RADIO AT 1300 HOURS LOCAL,
FEBRUARY 21.

2. THERE HAVE BEEN RECURRENT REPORTS THIS WEEK THAT BAYERE MOUSSA
WAS IN TROUBLE BECAUSE OF ARGUMENT HE GOT INTO WITH KOUNTCHE AT CMS
MEETING ABOUT TEN DAYS AGO. EFFORTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO PATCH UP
DIFFERENCES BECAUSE OF BOTH DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN REPERCUSSIONS
WHICH BAYERE MOUSSA'S DISMISSAL WOULD HAVE. KOUNTCHE HAS BEEN
REMINDING THAT BAYERE MOUSSA IS SOLE REMAINING MEMBER OF HAUSA
COMMUNITY IN CABINET, THAT AS CILSS COORDINATOR HE HAS DEVELOPED
REPUTATION AS BUSINESSLIKE AND HARD-WORKING EXECUTIVE AND
HIS DISMISSAL WOULD REFLECT ADVERSELY ON KOUNTCHE AND GON
AMONG DONORS AND THAT DOMESTICALLY, BAYERE MOUSSA IS REGARDED
AS HONEST, STRAIGHTFORWARD PERSON. THESE
COUNSELS HAVE APPARENTLY NOT PREVAILED AND KOUNTCHE HAS
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DECIDED MAKE MOVE.

3. THERE HAVE BEEN NUMBER OF CABINET CHANGES AND DISMISSALS
SINCE APRIL 1974 COUP BUT THIS IS PROBABLY MOST
SERIOUS AND COULD HAVE REPERCUSSIONS AMONG HAUSA ELEMENTS.

4. WE WILLREPORT AND COMMENT FURTHER AS EVENTS UNFOLD.HECK

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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